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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,535	01/15/2002	Augustine M. Choi	13681-003002	7091
26161	7590	12/01/2006		
FISH & RICHARDSON PC			EXAMINER	
P.O. BOX 1022			CHOI, FRANK I	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1616	

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/053,535	CHOI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Frank I. Choi	1616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 February 2006.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 43-47,50,53-59,62-89,96-99,102-115 and 118-158 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) 79-88 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 43-47,50,53-59,62-78,89,96-99,102-115 and 118-158 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> .	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :20060906,20060210,20060821,20060807,20060428.

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 was filed in this application after appeal to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, but prior to a decision on the appeal. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the appeal has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114 and prosecution in this application has been reopened pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/16/2005 and 2/10/2006 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 43-47, 50, 53-59, 62-78, 89, 96-99, 102-115, 118-158 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The nature of the invention:

The invention is directed to various methods for treating a patient by administering therapeutically effective amounts of carbon monoxide.

The state of the prior art and the predictability or lack thereof in the art:

The prior art discloses administration of carbon monoxide as indicated in the prior Office Actions. However, in articles published by one of the inventors of the present Application after

the filing date of the present Application, the therapeutic administration of carbon monoxide is still elusive. See Dolinay et al.(2004), pg. 224 (The duration and dose of exposure is still a subject of evaluation. The toxicological consequences of low dose CO application remain incompletely understood); Choi et al. (2005) (indicating in response to a letter indicating that the levels of carbon monoxide would be expect to give rise to brain damage and increased brain damage to patients already brain damaged that “therapeutic” carbon monoxide may be a reality soon). As such, predictability in the art as to the therapeutic administration of carbon monoxide is low.

The amount of direction or guidance present and the presence or absence of working examples:

The Specification provides working examples in animal experiments and doses.

The breadth of the claims and the quantity of experimentation needed:

The claims are broad in that they claim treatment of various conditions in patients with a therapeutically effective amount of carbon monoxide. Although the Specification provides working examples directed to animal experiments and purports to disclose therapeutic doses, the later published articles by one of the inventors refutes this disclosure. As indicated above, even at the doses used toxicity would be expected and the inventor admits or acknowledges that the duration and dose of exposure is still a subject of evaluation and the toxicological consequences of low dose CO application remain incompletely understood and that “therapeutic” carbon monoxide may be a reality soon. See *In re Wright*, 999 F.2d 1557, 27 USPQ2d 1510 (Fed. Cir. 1993) (later published reference used as evidence of non-enabling disclosure). As such, one of

Art Unit: 1616

ordinary skill in the art would be required to do undue experimentation in order to treat patients having the claimed conditions with a therapeutically effective amount of carbon monoxide.

Conclusion

A facsimile center has been established in Technology Center 1600. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:45 AM to 4:45 PM. The telecopier number for accessing the facsimile machine is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frank Choi whose telephone number is (571)272-0610. Examiner maintains a compressed schedule and may be reached Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 6:00 am – 4:30 pm (EST).

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's Supervisor, Dr. Johann Richter, can be reached at (571)272-0646. Additionally, Technology Center 1600's Receptionist and Customer Service can be reached at (571) 272-1600.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Frank Choi
Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600
November 27, 2006

(fr)

Johann Richter, Ph. D. Esq.
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 1600


SREENI PADMANABHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER